



NEWS BULLETIN

Monthly news for Family Resource Program providers

November 2007

BC ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS AGM Friday, December 7th, 2007

It's time for the FRP-BC Annual General Meeting. This year's speakers include: Honourable **Linda Reid**, Minister of State for Childcare, **Martha Lee-Blickstead**, Program Director for Community Services at Ryerson University, and **Dr. Clyde Hertzman**, Director of the Human Early Learning Partnership. The Six Valued Practices Videos will also be launched at the AGM. This year's event will be held at a larger facility, allowing participants more room to mingle with additional space for displays.

Registration starts at 9:00am. There will be a \$5.00 registration fee payable upon RSVP (cheques only). This fee contributes to the Endowment Fund in your name. The FRP-BC AGM will be held at 2490 West 37th, Vancouver, BC. at St. Mary's Kerrisdale. Official AGM announcement will be sent in the next week. Please remember to promptly RSVP as space is limited.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS *and* THE ENDOWMENT FUND

The second annual Distinguished Service Awards for Best Practices in Family Resource Programs will be presented at our AGM. Marlene Mydske, Executive Director of Enderby Family Place and winner of a Commitment to Quality Award last year comments, "The award was an honor and recognition of the valuable work done by Family Resource Programs. As a small rural program, the award has assisted us in leveraging other funds to expand our programs and services. Thank you!" The monetary awards this year have been increased from \$250 to \$500. We strongly urge members to nominate a Family Resource Program and give recognition to those working in the FRP sector. The deadline for submissions is November 16th.

The Distinguished Service Awards are funded through the FRP-BC Endowment established in 2005 and held in accordance with the provisions of the Vancouver Foundation. The interest accrued allows the BC Association of Family Resource Programs to honour members for their **Commitment to Quality Practice** and **Continuum of Service** to families with young children. To ensure the continued growth of this fund there will be several opportunities to make a donation this year. You will have already contributed to the Endowment Fund through the registration fee and if you would like to add \$5.00 or more, a tax deductible receipt will be provided. To further support valued service in Family Resource Programs, we will be asking for a \$5.00 donation when you renew your membership which will be deposited into the FRP-BC Endowment Fund. This is an optional donation but is highly encouraged. Remember that all donations go back to you, our members.

UPDATE ON CAPC

Will CAPC funding continue? The answer to the question remains unanswered. Dr. Kellie Leitch's report from Heath Canada was expected to have been released in July, but has been delayed. CAPC (Community Action Program for Children) has provided long term funding to community coalitions to deliver programs that address the health and development of children (0-6 years) who are living in conditions of risk. It recognizes that communities have the ability to identify and respond to the needs of children and places a strong emphasis on partnerships and community capacity building.

Many of you have relied on CAPC funding to operate your Family Resource Program. The threat of losing this funding is a very serious concern. Diane Willman, Director of Family Programs for Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House and CAPC Coalition Coordinator, says that "it's not too late to make a difference". Whether CAPC is the main source or a part of annual funding for FRPs, cuts will invariably cause significant changes and reduction of services offered, possibly leading to complete service closures.

Although there have been no announced decisions, there are numerous rumors that CAPC will either be extended for one more year or that funds will be transferred to the provinces. It is recommended that programs consider these options remembering that CAPC funding comes from PHAC and, if transferred, which Ministry/ies will disperse the funds in BC. Seek information about these options and consider individual and collective strategies for working with the relevant Ministries both provincially and regionally. How will the funding be designated if transferred to the provinces to ensure existing programs do not have to fight for what has been historically theirs?

BC Association of Family Resource Programs

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